

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

LEON WEINGRAD : CIVIL ACTION  
:   
vs. :   
:   
PREMIUM MERCHANT FUNDING ONE, LLC : NO. 24-cv-6247

**FEDERAL RULE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE 16 PRETRIAL SCHEDULING ORDER**  
**STANDARD TRACK CASES**

**AND NOW**, this 10th day of March, 2025, following a preliminary pretrial conference, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** as follows:

1. Any motion to amend the pleadings or to join or add additional parties shall be filed no later than **April 16, 2025**.
2. No later than **July 18, 2025**, the parties shall provide the Court with a joint status report as to their efforts to amicably resolve this action. In that status report, the parties shall also advise the Court as to whether a settlement conference would be helpful.
3. All discovery shall proceed forthwith and continue in such manner as will assure that all requests for and responses to discovery will be served, noticed and completed by **August 29, 2025**.
4. On or before **July 25, 2025**, counsel for each party shall serve upon counsel for every other party the information referred to in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(2)(B) by expert report, deposition, or answer to expert interrogatory. If the evidence is intended solely to contradict or rebut evidence on the same subject matter identified by another party, counsel shall serve the information on counsel for every other party on or before **August 8, 2025**.

5. Motion for Class Certification shall be filed no later than **September 5, 2025**.

Responses are due no later than **October 6, 2025**

6. On or before **November 11, 2025**, counsel for each party shall serve upon counsel for every other party:

(a) the original or a copy of each exhibit they expect to offer at trial in furtherance of their respective contentions. Each party shall mark its trial exhibits in advance of trial with consecutive numbers appropriately prefixed with an identifying letter of counsel's choice (i.e., P-1, P-2; D-1, D-2);

(b) curriculum vitae for each expert witness expected to testify; and

(c) a specific identification of each discovery item expected to be offered into evidence.

7. All parties shall prepare and file with the Clerk of Court their pretrial memoranda in accordance with this Order and Local Rule of Civil Procedure 16.1, as follows:

Plaintiff - on or before **November 11, 2025**.

Defendant - on or before **November 18, 2025**.

All motions in limine shall be filed on or before **November 18, 2025**.

Responses thereto are due on or before **November 25, 2025**.

In addition to compliance with Local Rule of Civil Procedure 16.1, the parties shall include the following in, or attached to, their pretrial memoranda:

- a. a listing of the identity of each expert witness to be called at trial by the party;
- b. a curriculum vitae for each expert witness listed;

c. a listing of each fact witness to be called at trial with a brief statement of the nature of their expected testimony (witnesses not listed may not be called by that party in its case-in-chief);

d. an itemized statement of claimant's damages or other relief sought;

e. a statement of any anticipated important legal issues on which the Court will be required to rule, together with counsel's single best authority on each such issue.

One copy (1) of the pretrial memoranda shall be filed with the Clerk of the Court and two (2) copies shall be sent to the Court (Chambers).

8. A final pretrial conference for this matter will be held on **December 3, 2025**, at **11:00 a.m.** in chambers (Room 17613).

9. (a) If a jury trial is scheduled, the parties shall file in writing with the Clerk of Court one (1) copy of joint proposed jury instructions on substantive issues and proposed verdict forms or special interrogatories to the jury. The parties shall also file one (1) copy of proposed jury instructions, verdict forms, or special interrogatories on those issues not agreed upon by the parties in their joint submission. These filings shall be made **on or before November 18, 2025**. Jury instructions shall be submitted each on a separate sheet of paper, double spaced, with accurate quotes from and citations to cases and pattern jury instructions where appropriate. A courtesy copy of these filings shall be submitted to chambers in hard copy, **and emailed in Microsoft Word format to chambers\_of\_judge\_john\_r\_padova@paed.uscourts.gov.**

(b) If a non-jury trial is scheduled, the parties shall file one (1) copy of proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law with the Clerk of the Court on or before **November 18, 2025**. A courtesy copy shall be submitted to chambers in hard copy, **and emailed in Microsoft Word format to chambers\_of\_judge\_john\_r\_padova@paed.uscourts.gov.**

10. The parties shall file a complete and comprehensive stipulation of uncontested facts on or before **November 11, 2025**; the original shall be filed with the Clerk of the Court, and two (2) copies shall be submitted to the Court (Chambers).

11. At the commencement of trial, the parties shall provide the Court with three (3) copies of a schedule of exhibits which shall briefly describe each exhibit. At the trial, the parties shall provide the Court with two (2) copies of each exhibit at the time of its first use at trial.

12. This case will be listed for trial as follows:

Date Certain: **December 8, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. (courtroom 17b)**

Counsel should consider themselves attached as of this date.

COUNSEL PLEASE NOTE: If this case has been assigned a trial date certain, this Scheduling Order will be the only written notice counsel receive of the date this case will be tried. Counsel and all parties shall be prepared to commence trial on that date and as soon thereafter as counsel receive telephone notice that trial is to commence. If the case is a pool case, counsel should have the responsibility to maintain contact with the deputy clerk once the case goes into the pool. Every effort will be made to give counsel at least 24 hours' notice and hopefully 48 hours' notice of commencement of trial. Pool cases are to be ready for trial as of the date they are placed in the pool and are frequently not called in the order in which they appear.

13. Any party having an objection to: (a) the admissibility of any exhibit based on authenticity; (b) the adequacy of the qualifications of an expert witness expected to testify; (c) the admissibility for any reason (except relevancy) of any item of evidence expected to be offered, or (d) the admissibility of any opinion testimony from lay witnesses pursuant to Federal Rule of Evidence 701 shall set forth separately each such objection, clearly and concisely, in their pretrial memorandum. Such objection shall describe with particularity the ground and the authority for

the objection. Unless the court concludes at trial that manifest injustice will result, the Court can be expected to overrule any objection offered at trial in respect to any matter covered by (a), (b), (c) and/or (d) above, if the Court concludes that the objection should have been made as required by this Order.

14. Only those exhibits, discovery items and expert witnesses identified in the manner set forth in this Order shall be considered by the Court for admission into evidence at trial, unless stipulated to by all affected parties and approved by the Court, or by Order of Court so as to avoid manifest injustice.

15. Because a witness may be unavailable at the time of trial in the manner defined in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 32(a)(4), the Court expects use of oral or videotape depositions at trial of any witness whose testimony a party believes essential to the presentation of that party's case, whether that witness is a party, a non-party or an expert. The unavailability of any such witness will not be a ground to delay the commencement or progress of an ongoing trial. In the event a deposition is to be offered, the offering party shall file with the Court, prior to the commencement of the trial, a copy of the deposition, but only after all efforts have been made to resolve objections with other counsel. Unresolved objections shall be noted in the margin of the deposition page(s) where a Court ruling is necessary.

BY THE COURT:

/s/ John R. Padova  
John R. Padova J.